Reservation in higher educational institutes

†2197. SHRI MAHENDRA SAHNI: Will the Minister of HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether reservation in higher educational institutes of the country would be implemented soon;

(b) if so, by when and the details thereof; and

(c) if not, the reasons therefor?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HUMAN RESOURCE DEVELOPMENT (SHRIMATI D. PURANDESWARI): (a) to (c) The Reservation for Scheduled Castes and Scheduled Tribes in the Central Educational Institutions is already being implemented. In so far as Reservation to Socially and Educationally Backward Classes (OBCs) in the Central Educational Institutions is concerned, the matter is *sub-judice* in the Hon'ble Supreme Court of India.

Opposition to Shariat laws by Muslim women

2198. SHRI VIJAY J. DARDA Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) whether Government are aware that a group of muslim women, under the banner of Bharatiya Muslim Mahila Andolan, challenged the Shariat laws and the Muslim Personal Law Board's regulations on marriage, during January, 2007, terming them discriminatory; and

(b) if so, whether Government, as an initial step, would give muslim women adequate representation in bodies like Muslim Personal Law Board, Madarasas, etc. to make these bodies more gender sensitive, to facilitate muslim women to fully enjoy their social, economic, political, civil, legal and religious rights?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF LAW AND JUSTICE (SHRI K. VENKATAPATHY): (a) and (b) The information is being collected and will be laid on the Table of the House.

Disposal of court cases

2199. SHRI KAMAL AKHTAR:
SHRI JAI PARKASH AGGARWAL:

Will the Minister of LAW AND JUSTICE be pleased to state:

(a) the average number of cases disposed of in lower courts/high courts and the Supreme Court, year-wise and State-wise during the last three years, till date; and

(b) the steps being taken by Government to dispose of the pending court cases speedily?

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.